



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Transmittal form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/789,734
Filing Date	February 27, 2004
First Named Inventor	Y. Sano
Art Unit	1753
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	B0020/7000

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
ASD	AA	US- 5,616,221	04-01-1997	Aoiki et al.	
	AB	US-6,235,186B1	05-22-2001	Tanaka et al.	
	AC	US- 6,274,009 B1	08-14-2001	Krafton et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
ASD	AD	Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 2002, no. 02, 2 April 2002 (2002-04-02) - & JP 2001 286868 A (First Ocean KK, 18 October 2001 (2001-10-16) abstract; figures 1-6, table all				
	AE	Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 2000, no. 12, 3 January 2001 (2001-01-03) - & JP 2000 246249 A (First Ocean KK), 12 September 2000 (2000-09-12) abstract; figures 1-6; table all				
ASD	AF	EP 1 386 887 A1	02-04-2004	First Ocean Co., Ltd.		
	AG	EP 0 823 400 A1	02-11-1998	First Ocean Co., Ltd.		

Examiner
Signature

A. Phasge

Date
Considered

6/23/06

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.